SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1895.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles returned. they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose

LOCAL NEWS.—The City and Suburban News Bureau of the United Passs and New York Associated Passs is at \$1 to \$9 Ann street. All information and doc-uments for public use instantly disseminated to the press of the whole country.

### How Long?

How long will it be before Mayor STRONG either throws away the pretence of being guided by the platform of non-partisanship on which he was elected, or else makes his administration conform to it honestly.

By the non-partisan clause in the STRONG platform, the theory of the last election was that the undisquisedly political organization of Tammany Hall could and should be driven from power only by a party ready to reverse its partisan methods of administration, and to replace them with non-partisan methods. All good citizens were invited to get together for the overthrow of this system of partisan favoritism and partisan purposes. It was adjudged by the leading spirits among the reformers, that non-partisanship was an indispénsable basis for the union of the heterogeneous groups of politicians necessary to effect Tammany's overthrow. Ordinary politics had to be thrown overboard, they thought, to justify the demand for Tammany's expulsion: so the STRONG party was asked to unite as business men committed to an administration of public affairs on the business principle of wiping out, honestly and thoroughly, the vice of political bias from the officering and administering of the city Government. The influences, the complications, and the disturbances of partisanship were to be driven out of the City Hall, and out of the Mayor's head. Men were to be chosen for personal qualifications, in lofty and unbending suppression of the lines of politics, Bi-partisanship, or tri-partisanship, or multi-partisanship, to fit the numerous well-defined bands of politicians who joined in ratifying Mayor STRONG's nomination with platform attached, cut no figure at all before election.

As a result, we have an administration partisanized as deeply and completely as the late Democratic administration, which nonpartisanship was supposed to have driven out. We regret to say that the bulk of the Mayor's appointments have been so unmistakably prompted by the calculations of the politician that we are unable conscientiously to regard a single one of his selections as a square and sincere tribute to his much paraded platform. We have a slippery sort of partisan administration on the STRONG apportionment plan, instead of an avowed Democratic administration of undivided accountability.

The question is, Is Mayor STRONG to be hardened in his humbug, or is he to confess the deceit, and fly his political flag openly? Or is he to reform and convert this administration into the ideal expressed in his platform? We ask in the hope either of his moral regeneration or his political conversion. As he is now, he is becoming simply ridiculous and intolerable.

## Perpetual Grover.

For the benefit of Cuckoos who are ray enous to add to their collection of Clevelandiana, and for the use of all persons who delight to study the truly modest and altruistic characteristics of the Father of the Income Tax, we give room this morning to a prediction which a Washington correspondent of the Galveston News heard or thinks he heard from some of the friends of the Hon. ARTHUR PUE GORMAN. According to these persons Mr. GORMAN has recently said that Mr. CLEVELAND will be nominated by the next Democratic National Convention.

Mr. GORMAN'S reason for his opinion is a piece of so excellent irony that the story is tion or only an epilogue: "He said the business interests of the country would dictate the nomination" of Mr. CLEVELAND. The notion of the business interests howling for the nomination of the Father of the Income Tax is worthy of the acute but solemn-featured Senator from Maryland.

It will not strike Mr. CLEVELAND himself or any of the coterie of his worshippers as other than high and serious. What is the first duty of the Democracy? Obviously to renominate GROVER CLEVELAND, and to keep on renominating him ever afterward.

Presumably some devotee of his has sent the proposition of a fourth nomination of Mr. CLEVELAND to the Galveston News, a Cuckoo journal, with a view to reconnoitring and ascertaining the feeling of Democrats toward the life candidate

That feeling was shown in 1893 and 1894 with a force that ought to have convinced anybody who knows enough to know when he is kicked. It has been shown in Rhode Island, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, this very week. But evidently the life candidate is not cast down, and still expects the Democracy to give him some more chances.

Are Criminal Proclivities Hereditary? Mr. HERBERT SPENCER has said that if WEISMANN is right in rejecting the Lamarckian doctrine that acquired characters are transmissible from parents to offspring, the whole of the imposing fabric of the syn thetic philosophy would collapse. That is unquestionably true, but it may be that a philosophical system, more bracing and encouraging than Mr. SPENCER's, will be reared upon the new foundation. It is clear, for instance, that if WEISMANN's views are shown to be well grounded, the blessing of a new hope will fall upon the children of criminals, whom the followers of LAMARCE, adopting practically the Calvinistic doctrine of original sin unrelieved by the interposition of redeeming grace, have been disposed to pronounce irreclaimable, and condemned to an irrevocable doom. For, if acquired characters are not transmissible, what is often too hastily stigmatized as an hereditary taint should rather be described as the infection from environment, and all that the children even of professional criminals would need for redemption would be removal at an early age from their unfortunate surroundings, and subjection to a wise and wholesome training for a considerable period.

It is well known that ever since Prof. WEISMANN denied the transmissibility of acquired characters, other scientists in all parts of the world have been engaged in conducting consecutive experiments upon animals for the purpose of confirming or refuting his opinions. Now we learn from the London Tablet that an even more interesting experiment upon human beings has been for some time in progress in Italy with the same end in view. An asylum for the children of criminals was founded, it appears, some years ago by Commendatore Barrolo Longo in Valle di Pompeii; and some of the results of this practical test of | ways constituting an important influence in the Lamarckian theory of heredity have New York affairs. JOHN JACOB ASTOR gave

recently been published. Before noting the conclusions warranted by this application of the touchstone of experience, we should point out that the children selected for shelter and training in this institution belonged, without exception, to the lowest class, and were in many cases branded with what Lamarckians would recognize as the ineffaceable birthmarks of degeneracy. When first rescued from the gutter they seemed absolutely hopeless subjects for philanthropic effort, displaying a repugnance to settled occupation, an intractability to discipline, and an indifference to rewards and punishments, calculated to tax patience past endurance and to turn sympathy to despair. Nevertheless, under the persistent humanizing influences of their new surroundings, the deteriorating effects of their earlier experiences have been gradually obliterated, while from the very traits that previously were sources of unmitigated evil have been developed germs of valuable qualities

We are told that the school list of honors in this remarkable institution is now headed by one DOMENICO PULANO, who, when he was rescued two years ago, was a little Calabrian savage, whose horoscope, if cast by scientists accepting the Lamarckian theory of heredity, would have been a most sinister one. The son of a felon, who had been sentenced for homicide committed in a fit of passion, he appeared to show an hereditary taint in a dark and sullen temper, alternating with outbursts of violence while his envy and intolerance of superiority in others were such that he would weep on seeing a companion rewarded, and laugh at the sight of his disgrace. Left in the environment wherein he had been born, he would in all probability have become a murderer in his turn. Now, on the contrary, he is cited as a type of probity and good conduct, his evil pride having been transmuted into self-respect, his obstinacy into tenacity of purpose, and his violence of character into unswerving strength of principle. Auother little waif, taken at seven years of age from the streets, while his father was undergoing a sentence of imprisonment, was unable for a certain period to reconcile himself to the change of life, and spent his whole time in tears. The first avenue discovered to his heart was music and he soon learned to play the trumpet in the school band, after which he developed a taste for typography, and would point with delight to the books he had helped to print. At the end of eighteen months he had taken a high place among his companions, and in addition to being scrupulously truthful, was a model of gentleness. A third example should be mentioned, that of a boy who at six years old had never known the touch of water on his head or body, who seemed to be incorrigibly indolent, and pined to return to his vagrant existence. He, too, however, was eventually reclaimed, learned to make shoes, and became such an enthusiast in his rade that he voluntarily picked up and mended a pair cast aside by a companion. We will only add that many of the little boys make earnest appeals to have their brothers taken in, and that the promise to do so on the part of the authorities operates

as the surest incentive to good conduct. It is obvious that Signor Longo's test of the doctrine of heredity would have been performed under much more favorable conditions, had the subjects of his experiments been removed from their native environment at an earlier age, as, for instance, when two years old. But even as it is, the outcome of this experimental study in criminal anthropology has been to confirm WEIS-MANN's assertion that acquired characters are not transmitted.

# A Mystery of Wealth.

The final passage of the law consolidating the ASTOR, LENOX, and TILDEN libraries, affords an instance of a certain well-nigh unchangeable fact concerning great wealth, which those not having wealth find always a perplexing mystery. Although George PEABODY and LELAND STANFORD, and a few others of lesser financial magnitude, broke this rule of rich men, they are exceptions which their rarity makes unnecessary to consider here. PEABODY, a man of a few millions only, was the first and almost the last to devote a sum measured in millions to an enterprise dedicated to the benefit of the public.

At present two members of the ASTOR family hold two of the six fortunes identified with this town, which exceed, it is safe to say, the sum of one hundred millions of dollars each. The limitation of the GOULD fortune, shown to be seventy millions, when Mr. JAY GOULD died, prevents Mr. GEORGE GOULD from making these lucky gentlemen seven instead of six. When it is remembered that Mr. Moses TAY-LOR, a man reputed rich but by no astonishing in his wealth, left the solid sum of forty-five millions, the estimate assigned above to each of six fortunes is by no means extravagant. The prevailing impression, we believe, is that the ASTORS, measured by capital rather than by income, are the richest of New Yorkers. Well, of the possessors of colossal fortunes who have died, there has been none to do with his money anything colossa in the way of public benefit. There have been large gifts, without in any instance exhibiting a sudden expansion of ambition to serve the community beyond the dreams of precedent, or a vigorous and extravagant departure away from previous figures and conceptions. Nothing so great as to be startling; nothing enough to connect a man's memory with an enterprise built on the scale which makes public institutions important and famous. Notwithstanding fortunes have been enormous, the charitable ideals of their dying owners have continued to be restrained within very moderate bounds. Poor men often please themselves with thinking what great things they would do with money; but the things done when money of tremendous amount gets into individual hands, seem to prove that these great imaginings are but little better than chimerical. Apparently. nobody when he gets very rich inclines to do anything very great. Some unexplained influence upon the rich man's mind prevents him from fulfilling the promise of the poor man's fancy, and makes him keep his money locked in his family chest.

This library consolidation furnishes striking instance of the fact we speak of. JOHN JACOB ASTOR, the first of the family in the United States, came to America hundred years ago. He dealt in furs, and while it is not absolutely certain whether the Astor fortune is really due to him or to his brother, who kept a butcher's shop in the Bowery, and whose heir he was. it started with him, for a career of steady accumulation which has kept it uninterruptedly at the front of estates identified with New York. Since his time, the name of Aston has been perhaps the most conspicuous in this city. Its representatives have been honored gentlemen, of high and creditable character, al-

a large fraction of his possessions to establishing the Aston Library, and he thereby laid for the perpetuation of the ASTOR name a foundation which his descendants might be expected to take especial pride in preserving intact and strong. The ASTOR Library was by far the most conspicuous memorial to a single name within the limits of New York. Properly cared for and cultivated, it would have shed on JOHN JACOB ASTOR and his descendants continual honor, not grudged but approved and applauded by the public. The decline of the Aston Library as a wholly satisfactory institution, following necessarily its growth beyond its financial equipment, has now been succeeded by its practical annihilation as a memorial, through its consolidation with the LENOX and TILDEN libraries, in which the ASTOR name appears as one among three; and this effacement from its original distinction might have been easily prevented if the interest felt in it by either living descendant of the first ASTOR, Mr. WILLIAM WALDORF ASTOR, or Mr. JOHN JACOB ASTOR, had not been measured by

dollars. Why Mr. Aston didn't take from his hundred millions, or two hundred millions, the sum of ten millions or twenty millions in a block, and put them down as an endowment to the Astor Library. to build upon its already firmly set foundations something of incomparable grandeur, is beyond the ability of men of moderate fortunes and of the pride and public spirit customary to human nature, to tell. Here was an unique opportunity Everything was ready. There was not only opportunity, but almost duty to see that greater ASTOR Library should be endowed with a fund which, compared to the present ASTOR fortune, would be commensurate with that given by its founder. New York would have rejoiced to think that she had a citizen by whom so splendid a chance was so nobly used. It would seem that every private and public motive possible to arise in the mind would have dictated an act of this nature, and, through it, the rupture of all traditional restrictions upon the amount of money given from private fortunes to the public use. But in the mind of each sur viving member of the ASTOR family this view seems to have been oppressed by the inexplicable but ever common restraint against the giving away of great sums of money; and so practically the ASTOR Library has faded out. It is all a mystery.

### Geography of Good English.

The St. Paul Call indulges itself in these assertions as to the geography of good English in the United States:

"Boston, the home of culture, contends that in tha city alone is the language properly spoken, while New York claims that, while she may be lacking in some technical respects, her people speak the vernac-ular far better than those to be found elsewhere on this continent. The truth of the matter is that in neither of those cities is English spoken in its purity and that if one wishes to hear it they must come to the West, where provincialisms have been abandone and euphony is more sought than mere arbitrary dicta. Boston strives for an articulation peculiarly its own; New York affects the cockney accent; but in the West, while due regard is paid to usage, harmony and euphony are more sought."

These assertions are very positive, but they are not convincing and cannot be made so in the lack of evidence. We do not think that our esteemed Minnesota contemporary is correct in maintaining that the Bosto nians believe that English is properly spoken nowhere but in their own city. Nor have we noticed that Boston strives for an articulation of its own. A broader sound of the letter a than obtains in the West and a habit of dropping the final g are perhaps the chief peculiarities of Bostonian pronunciation and these are rather inheritances than imi tations or affectations. The English of Boston, that is of the cultivated part of the community, may or may not be a little colder and more formal than the English of some other communities, that have not been so long exposed to the processes of education. If it errs, its error is in the direction of finical correctness. In the matter of pronunciation the well-bred Bostonian is very like the English university man. The nasal and catarrhal tone popularly attributed to the Yankees, is probably less common in New England than in some other parts of the country, notably the Western rural districts. Bad English is always and everywhere commoner than good English, and there is plenty of bad English in Boston: and even descons in the Church have been known to use the word unpardonable. pants;" but there is also much good English in Boston. Whether there is more there in proportion than there is in Portland or Brunswick or Brattleboro or Providence or New Haven, is a question impossible to answer. When Mr. THOREAU lived in his cabin by Walden Pond, there was more good English, in proportion to the population, on the shores of that piece of water than in Boston. But Boston, as the largest city and the virtual capital of New England, obtains and deserves to obtain a certain authority in the pronunciation and usage of English, an authority that would be indignantly denied by other New England cities, but would be recognized by a foreigner studying the language in New England. In case of any difference of usage or pronunciation between Boston and Hartford, for instance, he would accept Boston as the authority, for while usage is fixed, so far as the written tongue is concerned, by the best authors, the spoken tongue is continually subject to slight modifications, and the introduction of new or the revival of old words; and this process of change goes on quickest in the large cities, and the acception or rejection of a word, a phrase, or a term is still largely dependent upon the will of that old jury of language, the majority of cultivated men; and this is to be found asiest and first in the cities, although, of course, all cultivated men are a part of it. A piece of the dialect of the street, a slang word from the theatre, some new word of science, finds its vogue and quickest circulation in the large cities, and spreads thence to the country. As to pronunciation, the same rule and habit applies. There may be better men in the country than ever went to court, but the aulic pronunciation is the one that the few persons careful about or interested in pronunciation will be most

likely to adopt. What we have said of Boston will apply almost equally to Philadelphia, to Baltimore, to Washington, to New Orleans, and to many other cities. The local peculiarities of pronunciation which are popularly supposed to be shared by all the inhabitants of a city, do not as a rule appear in the pronunciation of those persons whose example in the use and enunciation of English is valuable. Travel and the habit of society usually remove the local tang, not without oss perhaps, for these flavors of the soil have their charm, especially now that the world is becoming more uniform in speech, dress, and manners. The cities have strange dialects and gibberishes of their own, jargon and argot almost unintelligible, but in the refined and educated speech the cities will be followed. St. Paul and Min-

neapolis will consciously or unconsciously follow New York, and Minnesota and all the territory subject to the influence of the Twin Cities will follow them. This is not saying that Minneapolis and St. Paul don't speak and pronounce as correctly as New York does, or that the English of Sleepy Eve is not as elegant as that of the Twin Cities. It is simply saying that the force of numbers applies to the use and pronunciation of English.

Our St. Paul contemporary makes a com-

mon mistake in saying that New York talks

with a cockney accent. New York has too many Southerners and Northerners, East erners and Westerners, to have any local accent. The cockney accent is heard only in a few inferior actors and ignorant and callow and uneducated youths. The fact is that a well-bred and well-educated American and a well-bred and well-educated Englishman pronounce substantially alike. A little more of the rising inflection on the Englishman's part, especially at the end of a sentence, is about the only difference. The cockney accent, often mistaken for the socalled English accent, and supposed to be characteristic of Englishmen, is characteristic only of Englishmen of Inferior breeding and braining. It is not true, so far as we know, that New York "claims that her people speak the vernacular better than those to be found elsewhere on this continent." There are a great many people here who speak good English, more than in any other American city; and there are a great many other people in other parts of the country who speak good English. It would e absurd for New York to attempt to lay claim to any superiority over them. New York is certainly more urban and urbane than Boston, for the cultivated folk of New York speak good English without bothering themselves about it unduly. New York's position in reference to the whole country is that of Boston in reference to New Eng land. New York is the capital of the whole country and is visited by the whole country. Phrases and habits of pronunciation in use here are carried all over the country, and must have an influence upon the English spoken outside of New York. And people in general are likely to follow, usually without reflection, the example of the capital New York English is idiomatic, simple, and expressive. If anything is borrowed from it by other cities and towns, they are only taking back their own, for new words and phrases come here from other parts of the country, and the pronunciation has been cleared of provincialism by the attrition of a thousand provincialisms from various sections of the country. New York is somewhat of a maker, but more of a dis

tributer. The West speaks well and strongly, and often with an originality and a humor which are irresistible. If we may be permitted to express a hope in regard to the English language in the West, we hope that t will keep on being strong, original, and humorous, and exuberant of artistic slang. Harmony and euphony are more common and more easily obtained. Our Gopher contemporary will, we hope, be so good as not to consider these remarks as "mere arbitrary dicta."

## The New Ships at Hand.

It is gratifying to learn that ten new war ships are so nearly completed that they can be put into active service this year. One of them, the Amphitrite, goes into commission next week; two others, the Maine and the Terror, can follow her promptly; the rest within a few months. All ten, too, are armorclads; and since we now have only three armored vessels ready for use, the New York, the Monterey, and the Miantonomoh, apart from the small single-turret monitors, the strength of the reënforcement thus promised to our fleet is obvious. An other new craft that will soon have her trial

trip is the torpedo boat Ericsson. The year 1895 will be memorable for its additions to the available fleet. Since it opened, four of our newest, finest, and fastthe Olympia, 5,870, and the Cincinnati and Raleigh, 3.213 tons each—have been added to the ships in regular service. We thus possess in the Gulf a squadron of seven steel cruisers, the strongest we have ever had there. There are seven steel cruisers and gunboats also on the Asiatic station, besides an old but useful iron vessel. Seven vessels again, of various types, are on the Pacific station Finally, there are a few vessels for the European and South Atlantic stations, and a considerable number on special duty along both our coasts.

The ten new armorelads include three sister ships, the Indiana, Massachusetts. and Oregon, of 10,288 tons, which are be lieved to be unequalled anywhere in the world for the combination of defensive and aggressive strength. They are surpassed in speed and steaming radius by some foreign ships of the line, but still are well supplied with both qualities for their functions as coast-line battle ships. and meanwhile are preëminent among all fighting ships for their stout plating and bat tery power. The Indiana is far advanced and the other two are not much behind her Then we have two fine second-class battle ships, the Maine, 6,682 tons, and the Texas, 6,315, which are still nearer completion The Maine can go into commission at any time, and both can be relied on whenever called for. Of the three new 3,990-ton dou ble turret monitors, the Amphitrite is ready, and the Terror can follow her almost forthwith, while the Monadnock is not very far behind. The Puritan will require, probably, a few months more. With her 6,060 tons displacement and her big 12-inch guns

natural draught, is also a valuable ally in coast protection. For next year the additions to be counted on are fewer, but two of them, the lows, 11,410 tons, our heaviest battle ship. and the Brooklyn, 9,271 tons, our biggest armored cruiser, are of great importance. They will be supplemented by the three gunboats building at Newport News, two being of 1,392 tons displacement and the other 1,371. The three torpedo boats, for which contracts are now to be awarded ought also to be finished in 1896; they will certainly belong to that year, if built within the contract time. Finally the contract for the submarine boat calls for her completion by March 26, 1896.

she is a splendid harbor defender. The ram

Katahdin, the greatest novelty in the lot,

with her exceedingly fine runs of nearly

18 knots over the measured mile under

Looking a little further shead, we find two battle ships, six gunboats, and three torpedo boats authorized. For such gunboats two years has usually been the time allowed, and that would carry them into 1897, while for torpedo boats only one year is allowed, but much more has thus far been taken, so that perhaps, since proposals for them have not yet been invited, we can hardly count on them before 1897, although the stipulations may call for them by the end of next year.

Meanwhile the great additions of 1895, made available by a provision for enlisting

1,000 additional men, are all the more welcome from the complications that now beset our diplomacy in so many quarters.

### The Case of the Ethelred.

The latest account from Jamaica shows that the steamship Ethelred, flying the British colors, was not actually boarded and searched off Cape Maysi by the Spanish gunboat, but was simply brought to shot across her bows. She is a British-built ship, owned in Boston, and plying, in the fruit trade, between that port and the Gulf, keeping, like other travellers on this route, well toward the Cuban shore. She must have been not very far from the spot where the Allianca was fired upon when hailed in the same summary fashion. The Spaniard, however, seems not to have ventured fur ther, for after the Ethelred hove to, he steamed around her without even exchanging signals or explaining his conduct, and

then moved off. We may, perhaps, expect John Bull since his flag was fired on, to become interested in the right of merchant steamers, it time of peace, to pass unmolested along the familiar routes of commerce. The case of the Ethelred differs from that of the Alliança, as no solid shot was fired directly at the former, the alacrity with which she hove to at the first shot across her bows giving no excuse for the more extreme con duct. Still, this case again calls attention to the results that would follow by allowing Spanish cruisers, when no state of war has been declared, to drive peaceful merchant craft off their customary course for fear of being overhauled and detained, and perhaps subjected to search.

On the first of January, in the City Hall, Mr. GILROY formally handed over the office of Mayor to his successor, Col. WILLIAM L. STRONG. Grasping Mr. Strong's hand, he wished him a successful and prosperous administration. As Mr. Gilhoy sought to withdraw his hand the Mayor gripped it again, and then by word of mouth published this first chapter of a most remarkable series of criticisms on the administra tion which he then supplanted:

"I want to hold onto that hand a little longer. In accepting this office, Mr. Gilhov, I want to express my chanks for the uniform courtesy you have extended o me for the past two weeks, during which I have attended the meetings of the Board of Estimate an pportionment. If I shall exhibit even one-quarter of he talent that you have shown in conducting the business of the boards over which you have presided I shall feel gratified."

On the second of April, three months after Mayor STRONG had been seated in Mr. GILROY's place as Chairman of the city's board of finances he sent to the Aldermen a message of spasmodic absurdity on our city debt, ascribing a of financial juggling," to "mislead the inno cent," to the previous administration. The Comptroller, Mr. FITCH, exposed the gross nonsense and the gross slander of the Mayor's conclusions on April 3, and on April 4 Col. STRONG tailed off with this:

"I am glad that Mr. Frrcu saw fit to reply as he did I am satisfied that he is quite correct. I sent that message to the Aldermen to draw out the Comptroller, so that the people would know the city's exact finan-cial structure. cial situation."

Such a humiliation of the Mayor is not sufficient. The rôle of the non-partisan and the gentleman requires that Col. STRONG should apologize to the representative of the late partisan Democratic administration. He can't be too quick in his amende honorable

Italy is doing at last what for several years she has been expected to do. Her army is marching south in Abyssinia, and some of the best parts of MENELER's kingdom are already in her hands. Her soldiers are now at Adua, the capital of the fine province of Tigré. It will not be surprising to hear before long that the territorial power of Italy has been extended to the very heart of the kingdom.

The present state of affairs was long ago fore Who has believed that Italy would be content with a strip of unhealthy coast and the small area of fertile uplands just north of King MENELER'S domain? Her African enterprises have cost her many sacrifices and yielded little recompense. Her nominal protectorate over Abyssinia has given her few advantages, and lately has been a source of actual humiliation. The people, from King to peasant, have not failed to give Italy pretexts for armed interfer ence; and King HUMBERT's troops have finally the finest highlands of Africa.

Italy did not take the offensive, however, un til, according to all reports, the condition of things became intolerable. MENELEK II. seem practically to have repudiated the treaty of 1889, by which his country became an Italian protectorate. If we may believe the reports, he returned with a curt message the last presents sent to him by the Italian Government: and his for a moment since he came to the throne, have not only carried on a small civil war of their own for a year past, but have now and then transferred the scene of hostilities to the neighboring Italian territory, much to the detriment of every interest that the whites are nurturing there.

Abyssinia has great possibilities before her but she will never see them realized until, from some source or other, she derives a more stable Government, War and turmoil have been the lot of her people ever since King John was slain. Their doings have been a constant men ace to the Italians. Whatever the outcome o the pending unpleasantness may be, it is hoped that, after it is all over, the Abyssinians may feel disposed to sit down and rest for a while.

The free-pew question is but a matter of business. Those churches which are unable to pay their expenses from the regular Sunday collections, must rent their pews at such rates as can be obtained. It is bad for a church to run in debt, and it is bad to ask the members of a free-pew church to meet the shortage in the col-The free-pew question should be dealt with as a practical, not a sentimental one.

# PERPETUAL GROVER.

# Ironical Prediction of His Renomination

Washingres, March 31.—I do not suppose there is a man in the United States to whom the people lister with more attention, when he speaks on political sub jects, than Senator A. P. Gorman. It is seldom that he expresses himself as to future events, because that is extremely dangerous for any man who makes any pretensions to being a political prophet. Sometim he speaks confidentially to a friend, and sometim what he says in this way reaches the public. What-ever may be said about the Senator from Maryland, it what he says in this way reaches the public. Whatever may be said about the Senator from Maryland, it
has never been said that he is devoid of political acumen or that he has a superior as a political manager.
He is not apt to make any mistakes on account of
friendship or distilke for men. He has been talking
some to his friendship, on the outlook, but some
the same as authority for nublic at giving
the same as authority for nublic at giving
that Gorman was wrong and that his prognostications would not urn out correctly. Mr. Gorman said
that he was assured that the result of the next Democratic Convention would be the nomination of Mr.
Cloveland for the Prosidency. He was asked on what
grounds he based this belief, and he said thebusiness
interests of the country would dictate the nomination. That interest was now satisfied, and in view of
the troubles growing out of the late changes, the business laterests would want no more changes. He said
that Cleveland's policy was well known throughout
the country and that he was a man who could be
relied dipriced, it was assured that businessore, in the free colinage of policy. The diversion in favor of
dangerouschanges of policy. The diversion in favor of
the free colinage of aliver only contributed to the prospect of his nomination. The greater the strength of
the sider element grew the greater the strength of
the sider element grew the greater the chance of the
nomination of the present President. Mr. Gorman
has never gone se far as to express his views as to the
probability of the reflection of Mr. Cleveland in the
event of his nomination but those who have talked
with him think that he believes that the Democrats
will carry the day.

The Hope of the Democratic Party. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUK-Sie: What will, or can iogratic party in 1890? POSTON DEMOCRAT. BOSTON, April 4.

If the Republicans don't save it, we see no prospect. Uninformed. From the Chicago Daily Tribune.
"As to the cause of this phenomenon," said the man
in the moon during the total eclipse, "I am entirely
in the dark."

THE PRESS ON ITS OWN RIGHTS.

#### Libel Law of the District of Columbia, From the Chicago Daily Tribune

It appears from the statements of the Washngton correspondent of a New York paper printed in another column that the law of crimi nal libel in the District of Columbia is the tyrannical, oppressive law which was in force in England prior to the Revolution. Odious and vindictive features which have ceased to exist abroad, and which never were tolerated in this country except during the brief period when the sedition law was on the statute books, still exist

at the capital of the country.

The only statute about libel is the act of Congress of 1801, which continued in force the common law of Maryland. That common law was the common law of England as it existed July 4, 1776. By the English law of that date, based largely on the practice of the Court of Star Chamber, any publication which criticised unfavorably the conduct of the Government or any of its departments was libellous. That the strictures were mild and couched in courteous language made no difference. It was held that any publication which tended to give the people an ill opinion of their Government was libelious.

ists in the District of Columbia, it is clear that any paper printed there which assails the President because of his course regarding Hawaii, the silver question, or any other matter can be indicted for libel, just as were men who denounced President Adams in 1799. Any head of a department who has been hauled over the coals by a Washington newspaper can secure the indictment and conviction of its publisher. This is not all. If the editor of THE NEW York Sun can be removed from his own city to Washington and forced to stand trial there on a charge of libelling a private individual who is a citizen of the District, because a copy of the paper containing the alleged libel found its way to Washington, then President Cleveland go before a District Grand Jury and have Mr. Dana indicted for the persistent and severe criticisms of his policy which have appeared i THE SUN and will have no trouble in securing

The publisher of any fournal in any part of the United States can be dragged to Washington for trial if he pitches into the President and a copy of his paper happens to drift into the District of Columbia. If a man of Gen. Jackson's tempera ment had known that such was the law he would have made it exceedingly lively for his newspaper critics-and he had some very sharp oneswhile he was in the White House,

The question of the power of the courts of the Federal district to extradite Mr. Dana will be carried up to the Supreme Court. It should settle the matter once for all by deciding that the place where redress is to be obtained if a wrong has been committed is the place where the paper was printed and not some place it happened to wander into. And when Congress meets it should pass a libel law for the District repealing provisions which are abhorrent to modern conceptions of a free government and a free press.

### CABLE IN FIFTH AVENUE. Protest of the Fifth Avenue Preservation

#### Society. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SITE The con triteness of the Metropolitan Traction Company.

as evinced by their letter in THE SUN of the 2d inst., is doubtless forced from them by the opposing sentiment of the people to their attempt to appropriate Fifth avenue or any part of it. This is not new in their contemplation. as they state, for a few years ago they announced their intention to attempt the repeal of the present inhibition and last year sought it directly, and even now their determination to prevail is not lessened. It has ong been conceded that no additional surface facilities will relieve the congestion of traffic during certain hours, and but indifferent observation is necessary to show that the limit has been reached, for practically every longitudinal street, with the exception of Fifth avenue, has been devoted to it. But if there exists any possibility in this direction it may be found in extending the cable from Twenty-third street down Broadway and University place, thence down South Fifth avenue, which latter route may also be reached from Sixth avenue. This seems clearly to obviate any necessity for the use of Fifth avenue, And again, it is the intention of the traction company to operate their road along Elm street when widened, and thus they will have about every available street.

The preservation of Fifth avenue is sought by all classes. It belongs to the whole people, and the existing law which preserves it for them has taken it out of the general classification of streets whose use may be determined by the owners of property along it and the Common Council alone. Its importance required this, and no relinquishment will be consented to. It is the free and proper approach to Central Park and to the great shopping district. It should be made a grand parkway for fashion and parades. extending the cable from Twenty-third street

and to the great shopping district. It should be made a grand parkway for fashion and parades, and this would not be changed by its conversion into a business street, but rather strengthened, for the reason that the new buildings do not extend beyond the house line, thus increasing the width of the promenade and making possible an increase of the driveway, and that the character of the business there conducted makes the shop windows an additional attraction. These shopkeepers are among the strongest opponents of a railroad, as it would greatly interfere with their carriage trade, upon which they only depend. But with the opposite to this, that is, the continuous clanging of the cable bells and the present barbarous pavement, this city would soon lose its attractiveness as a place of residence.

Counsel of the Association for the Preservation Counsel of the Association for the Preservation of Fifth Avenue.

#### Persecution of Jewish Boys, TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Will you

end the force of your influence to correct a crying abuse which has existed in our community for really only a short space of time, as compared with its history, but long enough to be now an ingrained habit, and one that is liable to grow if not checked in time? I refer to the actual persecution which boys of Jewish parentage have to suffer at the hands of their companions of so-called "Christian" faith.

This persecution does exist. It was not known in New York before the advent of the vast hordes of foreigners, both Jews and supposed Christians. Before this incursion a Jew was simply a man who went to a different church from the rest of the community, and in other cities of this country Jews have been admitted in the best of American society. Some have even intermarried and lost their identity as Jews altogether, but with the incoming tide of immigration there was also imported the "Judenhetze," and that so deeply ingrained that even little children, whom Christ so eagerly wanted to reach, are repelled from all communion with their fellows, so that they will necessarily shun their Jewish belief still deeper for the very remembrance of the slights put upon them in their helplessness.

brance of the slights put upon them in their helplesaness.

I claim that it is the duty of every Christian clergyman to instruct his Sunday school teachers that they must inculcate in the minds of their scholars Christ's solden rule, and that if they would live up to His example they dare not assail their innocent American companions with epithets and siurs. I have seen bright Jowish lads who dreaded to go to certain public schools of this city because they were daily assailed with words and blows. I think it needs but to be generally known in order that the forces will be enlisted that will stamp it out and thus secure fair play and justice to the little American Jews who will some day be so large a body of the citizens of this commonwealth. s body of the citizens of this commonwealth

# Consular Brutality.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The following letter has been addressed to the Hon. Edwin F. Uhl. Assistant Secretary of State, Washingto

Colon, March 23, 1895.

Siz: Respectfully referring to the assurance conveyed in your lotter of Jan. 19, 1895, that the department had ordered a thorough investigation into the affair of the brutal assault made by Vice-Consultincharge R. C. Wintersmith on me. Dec. 30, 1804, and that I would be advised of the result, perhaps a not ounstural impatience may be perdoned at the delay of such investigation and advice. Although nearly three menths have passed time the commission of that outrage, in which murder was threatened, and as a matter of fact attempted, no further instination than the one contained in your adoresaid highly estimated in your adoresaid highly estimated to the contained and the contained in the containe than the one contained in your aforesaid highly re-tection has been expended in some aforesaid highly re-tection has been understood has reached me that any ac-l will therefore thank you very sincerely to have the goodness to inform me when and where and by whom the promised investigation will be made. It may be presumed that I will be neard, either in person or by aftorney, whenever testimony is taken. I am, sir, your obedient servant. That's Rounson.

To the Roston of The Stx-Sir: Poor Chicago! Is she, too, doomed for her many and grievous sins to suffer from such a plague as we have been enduring.
of Goffs and Hoebers and Tamesns and all the other
freak's and frauds that drift in on Republican reform?
In one respect she seems more fortunate, that the
prototype of Head Righterskite Parkhurst has not
yet been evolved there. Perhaps it is too windy.

E. J. Sunuvas.

be distinguished from the yeulows to
Lung complaints, bronchitis, asthma, &c., are speedly refleved, and if taken in time permanently cured
by Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant. You will find in it also
a certain remedy for coughs and colds.—Add.

## SUNBEAMS.

-Almost anything is now done while you wait. notably pinking. Pinking is now as much associated with the undertaker's trade as blood letting used to

be with the barbers. -The street vender who goes about with a horse and wagon adapts himself with great readiness to the changing seasons and is seldern idle. Just now he ta

selling the early flowering plants of spring. —In reply to a question by the editor of the Rich-mond Dispatch the Department of Agriculture has de-eided that the peanut is not a nut, and that "the

weight of authority seems to be in favor of accepting -The corn-cob pipe with a straight reed stem, such as retails at five cents, is the one most commonly sold, but corn-cob pipes are made in more than twenty dir-ferent styles, and some retail as high as twenty five cents each. There are small factories where corn-cob

pipes are made in this city, but most corn-cob pipes are made in Missouri.

—Demand and supply are beautifully arranged in the case of the Delaware tomato crop. The canners who use most of the crop, are now contracting with farmers for the supply of raw material to be canned

next summer, and the acreage will be determined in few days. The price offered by the canners to the farmers is from 85 to 86 a ton -Any one that has acted as a witness in court and kissed the court Bible in taking the oath should under stand the sanitary reasonableness of Pennsylvania's new law to dispense with the kissing. Nathaniel Hawthorne described the Bible he used for administering oaths to American waifs and strays who came

o his consulate in Great Britain as "greasy with per

-Careful farming still pays in Delaware. The accounts of a recent year in the case of a Sussex county farm of forty acres show receipts amounting to a little over \$1,425 besides what was needed to feed the family and the farm laborers. The expenditures, including all that went to make the crop and to clothe the amily and \$150 " for Christianity," left the farmer a -Hose wagons are steadily supplanting hose reels

for use in fire departments. When a now hose apparatus is ordered it is generally a wagon. In the wagon the bose is simply laid down in folds. The wagon may not be so picturesque as a jaunty four wheeled nose carriage, but a well-built hose wagon is by no means a bad-looking vehicle, and it is found to be more useful in service. -There are some stone of rebellion against the enor

mous retail baxaars that sell everything, and indica-tions that in their present development, at least, they are only a passing phase of the retail trade, Manpersons habitually purchase most of their supplies at shops having well-recognized specialties, and that in the face of the astounding cheapness of many things at the great general stores.

—One result of the hard times has been a tendency to restrict club credits. Most clubs have a rule upon this subject that is not too strictly enforced in flush times, and every large club expects to have some thousands of dollars owing to it from members who have en-joyed the good things of this life on credit. When hard times come arrears of this sort tend to swell to an em barransing size, and probably every club in New York, save two or three of the richest, has been forced to put its own regulations strictly in force within the last eighteen months.

-It is remarkable that in this day of germs and germicides nobody has invented a sanitary librar, card catalogue. Every one that recalls the unspeak able filth of the old and now departed card catal able flith of the old and now departed card catalogue of the Astor Library must suspect that it was a highly effective agency in the spreading of disease. The bound catalogue is perhaps even worse, for an attentive observer must often have noted that the average reader in a public library turns the leaves of the cate logue with the aid of a finger dampened by applica-tion to his own lips. The commercial exchange of germs by this method must reach a vast volume of transactions in the course of a year.

-Madison avenue is a daily index to the growth of bicycling in this town. It is difficult at any hour be-tween daylight and midnight to find the stretch in sight northward from Madison Square Garden free of ployels riders, and in the morning hours from 7 to 9 the asphalt is pressed by many wheels. The view northward on a cunny morning is full of charm and inspiration, for between the Garden and the sky line above the bump of Murray Hill there is a constant itvely motion of many vehicles, now in the ribbon of sunlight from some cross street, now in the dones, cool shadow of the houses. Against the clear sky line every detail of an approaching vehicle is visible, and even the calks of the horses' shoes are clearly seen.

—In whatever part of the town one may be, if in-formation is needed, one is pretty apt to ask a police man. Finding no policeman, a good thing to do is to go to the nearest branch telegraph office. If you find the right sort of boy he is pretty sure to be able to tel you what you want to know. Suppose, for instance you are looking for the place of manufacture or sal of some particular article, the chances are that th nessenger will give you the address right off the reek He is especially strong on business addresses, but he knows also a lot of strange people in his district; about everybody that is our of the commonplace in any way. If he has been going about his district long enough to get acquainted in it, the intelligent tele-graph messenger is a great source of information.

-Americans accustomed to the luxuries of New York are much impressed with what they hear touching the cheapness of living in Oriental countries, but they seldom suspect that the cost of living in the villages of this country, East and South, is absurdly small compared with what they have been accustomed to. The number of families subject to the income tax in villages of less than 2,000 inhabitants tants of such villages are well housed, abundantly fed, and decently clad. A family with \$1,200 can keep a horse, visit a summer watering place, and buy a dozen new books every year. A large house with ample grounds rents for \$250 a year, and two servants may be had at about the cost of one in New York. One does not have fashionable afternoon teas, costly hothouse flowers, concerts, plays, and horse shows, but neither does one with \$1,000 a year in the Orient.

# Foreign Notes of Real Interest.

Riyaces Salon this year, but only 1,800 can be ac-Rugby's new head master is again a clergyman, the Rev. H. R. James, previously head master of Chelten

ham College.
The first golf links in Italy have been laid out by some Englishmen at Sorrento on a hill between Si Agata and little Mount Sant' Angelo.

Corney Grain is dead. Also Mrs. German Reed, who, with her husband, gave the peculiar parlor-like entertainments where Mr. Grain appeared, is dead.

Manual Garcia, in spite of his 90 years, is still an aclive singing teacher in London. It is nearly 70 years since he made his first appearance in opera in New Paderewski is sharing his honors in Paris with M.

Zeldenrust, a Dutch planist who is coming soon to America, and whom the Paris critics compare to liu-Mount Cook, the highest peak in New Zealand. 12,362 feet high, has just been elimbed for the first time by Mr. Fitzgerald of the Alpine Club and the

Swiss guide Zurbriggen.

Another balloon has been seen on the shores of the

Porsanger Fjord, east of Hammerfest, in Norway. It was red and blue, and, like the one seen a month beore, seemed to come from the Arctle regions.

M. Adolphe Carnot, brother of the late President.

who is an engineer and professor in the School of Mines, has been elected to the seat in the Academie des Sciences made vacant by the death of Ford nand de Lesseps.

Count Tolstof's latest work, which has just appears. in the Severny Vestnik, is called "Master and Man." It is a story of Russian village life, telling of the array-

gle in the mind of the master, lost in the snow well his man, against the temptation to abandon his help less companion, for whom he at last gives his life.

A gold medal of the value of \$200 is offered by the Bologna Academy of Sciences for the memoir describ ing the best system or apparatus for putting out fire, by chemical, physical, or mechanical means. The pa-pers must all be in by the end of May, 1805, and may

be written in Latin, French, or Italian, or in any other language if accompanied by an Italian translation.

In Petersborough Cathedral a monumental state has just been placed over the remains of Katharine. Aragon. It is of Irish gray fossil marble, and was paid for with subscriptions by the "Katharine" of Great Britain and America. The inscription read-"Here lies the body of Katharine of Aragon, Queen of England and first wife of Henry VIII., who died at

ton Castle on the 8th day of January, 1895 0, aged 40 years." Ornithorhynchus paradoxus, the unique Australian duck-billed water mole, has lost its character for harmlessness, but has an added peculiarity, a sing like a bee. The male has on its hind leg a powerful spur connected with a gland. When attacked it does not scratch with the spur, but digs it in; and now an Australian naturalist has discovered that a virulent poison is ejected from the spur. He has found two men who were released.

men who were poisoned in handling the animal, and a number of dogs, four of the latter dying. That our opinion of the color of an object is formed by our perceiving that certain constituents are absent in it, is the conclusion reached by Herr Vogel in a pophefore the Berlin Physical Society. Experimentials with oil lamps provided with pure red, green, and blue color screens, he found that when write light was rigidly excluded the observers lost all sense of cold and could distinguish only shades of black and white in objects in the room. A scale of colors Humined is red light showed the reds as white or gray; when belight was added the reds became yellow and could not